

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05388 150631Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 INSE-00 /029 W  
-----095420 151152Z /47

R 150629Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8599  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 05388

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS : SREF  
SUBJECT : TAIWAN TRAWLERS BRINGING INDOCHINA REFUGEES  
TO HONG KONG

REF: HONG KONG 9923, TAIPEI 4671, TAIPEI 5244  
- HONG KONG 10685

### 1. INFORMATION FROM MOFA ON CHINESE TRAWLERS FOLLOWS:

"FIVE CHINESE FISHING TRAWLERS WERE SUCCESSIVELY SEIZED BY VIETNAMESE ARMED TRAWLERS ON THE SOUTH CHINA SEA DURING LAST MAY AND JUNE AND DETAINED IN DANANG YKHSMESLY FROM 20 TO 26 DAYS. THESE FISHING TRAWLERS WERE FORCED TO TAKE ON 578 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND THEN RELEASED. 113 OF THESE REFUGEES WERE TAKEN TO KAOSIUNG IN TWO BOATS AND THEY WERE GIVEN TEMPORARY SHELTER IN PENGHU; AND THE REST, LOADED IN THREE TRAWLERS WERE BROUGHT TO HONG KONG UNDER DURESS OF THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES AND THE COERCION OF THE REFUGEES ON BOARD.

"A SIXTH CHINESE FISHING TRAWLER NAMED "CHUN YUAN NO. 2" WAS SEIZED BY THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES ON JULY 14, THIS YEAR, AND HER WHEREABOUTS IS STILL UNKNOWN.

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"SINCE ALL THE FIVE FISHING TRAWLERS MENTIONED ABOVE WERE NOT EQUIPPED WITH RADIO COMMUNICATION FACILITIES, INFORMATION GIVEN ABOVE WAS OBTAINED AFTER THE RETURN OF THESE BOATS TO TAIWAN.

APPARENTLY, ALL CATCHES OF THE FISHING TRAWLERS WERE SEIZED BY THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES AND THE CREWMEN'S PERSONAL BELONGINGS SUCH AS CLOTHES, WATCHES, ETC. WERE ROBBED DURING THEIR DETENTION.

"AFTER A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION, THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED HAVE VERIFIED THAT THESE FISHING TRAWLERS HAVE NOT ENGAGED IN ANY ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES DURING THEIR CAPTIVITY IN VIETNAM."

2. FOR HONG KONG: ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON WHEREABOUTS OF CHUN YUAN NO. 2? UNGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
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